



TRINATIONAL SARDINE FORUM

Sardine Ageing Workshop

**April 21-22, 2003 (8:00-5:00)
Southwest Fisheries Science Center
Large Conference Room
La Jolla, California**

One outcome of the 2002 Trinational Sardine Forum in San Pedro was the recommendation to hold a sardine ageing workshop at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center during April 2003. The workshop is now planned for April 21-22, and we hope you can attend! Comments on the following draft agenda would be appreciated.

Draft Agenda:

- 1) Presentation of regional age data (Mexico, California, Oregon, Washington, Canada)
- 2) Discuss and resolve basic sardine ageing methods and issues
 - sampling rate (fishery)
 - resolving first annulus, check marks, outer edge
 - standardizing birth date and year class assignment
- 3) Cross-reads among ageing experts
 - full spectrum of samples by region and season
 - representation of all ages with examples of excellent, average, and difficult samples
 - criteria for ageing error
- 4) Validation and verification
 - marginal increment analysis, and review of previous work
- 5) Joint publication on coast-wide age distribution, growth, maturity
- 6) Develop format for sharing summarized age and growth data among agencies

Hotel Accommodations:

A block of rooms has been reserved at 'Inn by the Sea' for the 'Sardine Ageing Workshop' group at a government rate of \$99 per night plus tax. The rooms will be released after April 7, so please make your reservation before that date. King size or two-double beds are available. The block of rooms is reserved for April 20-21 (Sunday & Monday night) with the day before and after also offered at the rate of \$99.

Best Western Inn by the Sea
7830 Fay Avenue
La Jolla, CA 92037
Phone: (858) 459-4461; Fax: (858) 454-3941

For reservations call Georgia Hurley in the Sales Office (toll free): **877-459-7257**.

Transportation: Shuttles and taxis are available from the airport. We will provide van transportation between the hotel and the Southwest Fisheries Science Center.

Contact: Kevin T. Hill, California Department of Fish and Game. 858-546-7052. Kevin.Hill@noaa.gov